

**May 24, 2005**

**Public Session**

**The meeting was called to order by Dr. Twaddle, at 7:03 PM. The following members were present:**

**Dr. Roy Twaddle, Chair      Mr. Terrence Kavanagh, V. Chair**

**Ms. Sylvia Wedge**

**Mr. David Croston      Mrs. Terri Cortvriend      Ms. Karen Gleason**

**Absent: Mr. Douglas Wilkey**

**Also Present: Timothy Ryan, Colleen Jermain, Cynthia Brown, Rick Updegrove, Rick Elmasian, and Patti Cofield.**

## **1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**a) Superintendent Contract: Dr. Twaddle announced that the contract has been signed by Dr. Lusi, and it will be discussed and voted upon during this meeting.**

**b) Budget Presentation Preparations: Dr. Twaddle stated that budget**

**presentation preparations have been moving along very well.**

**Dr. Twaddle also made reference to his future service as Chair of the Committee.**

## **2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Supt. Ryan reported on recent activities and events. The Portsmouth Public Education Foundation held their annual Lance Cpl. Barton Carroll Memorial Road Race/Walk on May 21st at Portsmouth High School. The high school's Modern Language Department held their annual awards dinner at Roger Williams Conference center on May 18th. The annual Special Education awards ceremony will be held on May 31st at Portsmouth Middle School.**

**Supt. Ryan announced that a special School Committee meeting has been scheduled for June 9th at 7:00 PM in case any problems arise during the Senior week activities that result in a student disciplinary hearing.**

**a) Teaching and Learning: Asst. Supt. Jermain reported that a ceremony was held at the State House to honor Melville School and the other Regents-Commended Schools. She also reported that the NECAP assessments will be taking place for all students in Grades 3 through 8 in English language arts and math. In addition, she is working on organizing summer school, as well as following through**

with professional development for next year. She stated that a new math program will be implemented, and training will be taking place.

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b) **Finance and Operations:** Ms. Brown reported that the Governmental Health Group now has the approval of all of the schools and towns involved, and a meeting will be held to discuss the start up process. Ms. Brown also reported that she is in the process of advertising for vacancies next year. In addition, the bidding process has begun for some of the items needed for next year such as school supplies, healthcare supplies, etc.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded by Mr. Croston to approve the minutes of the meetings held May 10, 2005, and May 16, 2005. So voted 6-0.

**4. SPOTLIGHT**

a) **RI School Nurse-Teacher of the Year.** A motion was made by Ms.

**Gleason and seconded by Mr. Kavanagh to commend Ms. Nancy Souza for being chosen as Rhode Island's School Nurse-Teacher of the Year by the Rhode Island Certified School Nurse-Teachers, Inc. So voted 6-0. Ms. Gleason read a personal statement about Ms. Souza, and Mr. Croston moved to make Ms. Gleason's statement part of the permanent record. So voted 6-0.**

**“Ms. Nancy Souza, as a School-Nurse Teacher, you have been a very valuable asset for the Portsmouth School Department for the last 18 years and continue to be very valuable today. You tend to our elementary students' medical needs by placing band-aids on scrapes, examine bruises, take temperatures, check for ear infections, examine sore throats, distribute daily medication, give necessary catheterizations, monitor our diabetic students, and keep a close eye on our kids with food allergies. You attend IEP meetings and advocate for those students that need special health accommodations. In addition, you help run the annual kindergarten screening. This program assesses for developmental delays and includes hearing tests, vision screenings, and identifies the children's emotional and social readiness to start kindergarten. You teach health education classes covering various health topics ranging from germ prevention, proper hygiene, and puberty.**

**With your medical knowledge and training, you detect and diagnose many diseases and conditions, some routine and others that need immediate medical attention. You make appropriate referrals to local**

**pediatricians, pediatric dentists, optometrists, and other specialists; and encourage parents to seek and follow through with necessary treatment for their children. Those in the medical fields remark and compliment you over and over again, not only because of your ability to identify medical issues and concerns, but also because of your ability to address these issues with the children and their parents in a very caring, sensitive, and professional manner. You always make yourself available to lend a helping hand. You drive in ambulances to provide comfort to our kids suffering**

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**with illnesses or injuries. After hours, you visit those who have been admitted into local hospitals.**

**You are a School-Nurse Teacher who wears many hats. In addition to caring for our students, you provide blood pressure monitoring, administer flu vaccines, and teach CPR to your colleagues. In the late 90s, with the recommendation of the State Department of Health, you helped coordinate and facilitate the meningitis clinic which provided meningitis vaccines to all our Portsmouth children to help prevent a break-out or epidemic.**

**You are a good listener and when necessary, provide a strong shoulder to cry on for those students, parents, and others, who have been diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses or who have lost their child (our students), a parent, or other loved ones. You saw the need to help the low income or less fortunate and therefore took it upon yourself to develop the CARITAS program; a program that raises money and allows you to send those parents in need to the local Irving's shoe store to purchase shoes for their children; or to Clements' Market to purchase needed groceries. During the holiday season, you spend countless hours coordinating, seeking, and purchasing for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets and gifts for those families in need. You seek out volunteers to donate unused furniture and clothing to assist a family or two who suddenly find themselves in a desperate situation and help them get back on their feet. When things appear desperate and hopeless, you think of ways to rally up the troops and bring forth aid where necessary. For example, you coordinated a spaghetti dinner to raise money to help pay medical bills for a family with a child who was diagnosed with terminal cancer.**

**Among your other contributions, you assisted in writing a grant which enabled you to develop the Teens Leading Children Program; a program in which our high school students provided drug, tobacco, and alcohol education and prevention to all our fourth graders. You also initiated and provided educational lecturers on various medical and parenting topics for our local parents and the public. In addition,**

**you co-facilitated the ADHD support group for our parents. This program offered a supportive atmosphere for parents and helped them understand their children's attention and hyperactivity challenges.**

**Ms. Sousa, you, our other Portsmouth School-Nurse Teachers, and your colleagues across the State of Rhode Island, dedicate your career helping and caring for others. You especially have gone above and beyond your job description and duties. For you, it is not simply just a job. It is tasks that need to be done, and with your natural abilities, medical knowledge, and professionalism, you see to it that these tasks get done. Portsmouth School Department has been blessed with many dedicated professionals, such as yourself, and on behalf of our Portsmouth students, Portsmouth community, and Portsmouth School committee, I thank you and congratulate you on receiving the Rhode Island School-Nurse Teacher Award, an award well-deserved. Congratulations and thank you for all your hard work, dedication, and professionalism.”**

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## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**a) Coaching Appts - PHS. The Superintendent recommends adoption**

**of the following resolution, “that the Committee approves the coaching appointments at Portsmouth High School for the fall 2005 season as presented.”**

**b) Appt. – Advisors, PHS. The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee approves the appointment of the listed individuals to the Advisor positions at Portsmouth High School for the 2005-06 school year.”**

**A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend to approve the coaching and advisory appointments as presented. So voted 6-0.**

**Football: Head Coach Tim Coen**

**Assistants Joe Benedetti**

**Tom Carlson**

**Jallah Leonard**

**Keith MacDonald**

**Milton Hall**

**Girls Soccer: Head Coach Bob Champion**

**Assistants Scott Polselli**

**Volunteer Jim Nott**

**Boys Soccer: Head Coach Mike Stinton**

**Assistants Scott Sullivan**

**Boys X-Country: Head Coach Steve Trezvant**

**Girls Tennis: Head Coach Mike Medeiros**



**Cheerleading: Head Coach Deborah Valente**

**Assistant Robin Chapman**

**Boys Basketball: Head Coach Rick Pascoe**

**Assistants Phil Quinn**

**Joe Occhi**

**Girls Basketball: Head Coach Jeff Goss**

**Assistants Donna Ricci**

**Boys Indoor Track: Head Coach Kyle Howard**

**Girls Indoor Track: Head Coach Steve Trezvant**

**Gymnastics: Head Coach Cybil Pacheco**

**Assistant Shannon Farrell**

**Baseball: Head Coach Dave Ulmschneider**

**Softball: Head Coach Tom Galib**

**Assistants Sarah MacLean**

**Boys Lacrosse: Head Coach Dave Kingman**

**Girls Lacrosse: Head Coach Megan Stephens**

**Boys Outdoor Track: Head Coach Kyle Howard**

**Girls Outdoor Track: Head Coach Steve Trezvant**

**Activities Coordinator: Jeff Schoonover**

**Campus Shop Advisor: Joao Arruda**

**Community Service: Michael Medeiros**

**Cultural Explorers: Joao Arruda**

**Drama Club: Gary Vaspol**

**Drama Club Tech Advisor: Camille Frankel**

**Junior Advisor: Timothy Ryan**

**Math Team: Karen Jeong**

**Mock Trial: Cynthia Perry**

**National Honor Society: Patricia McCarthy/Marjorie Cogar**

**Newspaper: Patricia Meyer**

**Oceanography Club: Elaine Amaral**

**Renaissance Games: Michael Lunney**

**SADD: Katherine Rawstrom**

**Senior Advisor: Joanne Quinn**

**Ski Club: John Blaess**

**Sophomore Advisor: Michelle Medeiros/Jennifer Fraser/Mary Ellen Johnson**

**Spring Musical Advisor: Meryl Moore**

**Web Page Advisor: Elizabeth Carter**

**Yearbook: Amanda Boswell**

## **6. BUSINESS AGENDA**

**a) 2004-05 Budget Adjustments/Update. The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee approves the 2004-05 budget adjustments, as presented.” This item was tabled until the June 14, 2005, meeting.**

**b) Request for Approval – PHS Field Trip. Mrs. Moore, Director of the music and choral programs at Portsmouth High School, asked the Committee for approval to participate in an exchange program with**

high school students in Brest, France, in the spring of 2006. A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded by Ms. Gleason to approve the trip to Brest, France, next spring. So voted 6-0.

**c) Recision of Teacher Non-Renewals.**

**1) Recision of Non-Renewal.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the follow-ing resolution, “that the Committee rescind the non-renewal of Teacher H-2/8/05, and recall to a Grade 6 teaching position at Portsmouth Middle School, effective 8/29/05.”

**2) Recision of Non-Renewal.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the follow-ing resolution, “that the Committee rescind the non-renewal of Teacher I-2/8/05, and recall to a Grade 5/6 Float position at Portsmouth Middle School, effective 8/29/05.”

A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend to rescind the non-renewal of Teacher H-2/8/05 and Teacher I-2/8/05, and recall them to their current positions. So voted 6-0.

**d) Approval – Superintendent Contract:** A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded by Ms. Wedge to approve the contract for the Superintendent of Schools, as presented. So voted 6-0.

**e) Agenda Item Request - Change of School Committee Meeting**

**Venue. Requested by Ms. Wedge, as tabled at the last regular meeting. A motion was made by Mrs. Cort-vriend and seconded by Mr. Croston to change the venue of the School Committee meetings to the Town Hall effective June 14, 2005. So voted 5-1. Ms. Gleason was opposed.**

## **7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) Finance. Ms. Wedge reported that the Finance Subcommittee is prepared to present the budget to the Town Council on May 25, 2005.**

**b) Superintendent Selection.**

**\*The Chairman denied the following Agenda Item Request by Mr. Croston, who wishes to appeal to the Committee: A motion to change the Charter of the Superintendent Selection Subcommittee. Mr. Croston did not wish to appeal.**

**c) Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Kavanagh stated that a number of monetary issues will be addressed at the next Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee meeting. The Subcommittee is expecting a full presentation by Torrado Architects, Inc., as well as Edwards and Kelsey.**

**d) Negotiations. A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded**

by Mrs. Cortvriend to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exception (a) (2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation. So voted 6-0.

Public Session recessed at 8:35 PM and resumed at 9:14 PM.

Dr. Twaddle stated that an Executive Session was held to discuss the NEA contract negotiations. No votes were taken. A motion was made by Mr. Kavanagh and seconded by Ms. Wedge to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. So voted 6-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Croston and seconded by Mr. Kavanagh to adjourn the meeting. So voted 6-0. Public Session adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Cofield

Recording Secretary for

Douglas Wilkey, Clerk